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COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES - SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT - SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

DATE JANUARY 4, 1995 **FILE NO.** 094-06208-0780-057

C- ASSAULT WITH A DEADLY WEAPON ON A PEACE OFFICER - 245(b) P.C. DEPUTY INVOLVED SHOOTING

Action Taken ACTIVE/CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED/EVIDENCE HELD/ CC #94-10758

V- SEE BELOW

D- 12-18-94 AT 0006 HOURS

L- PUBLIC STREET IN FRONT OF [redacted] MONTROSE AVENUE, GLENDALE

S- CEASE, AARON WESLEY MW/30, DOB: 03-01-64 (DECEASED)
GLENDALE

VICTIMS:

V#1 - DEPUTY GREGORY GABRIEL MW/[redacted] (UNINJURED)
(LA CRESCENTA VALLEY SHERIFF'S STATION)

V#2 - DEPUTY PAUL DINO MW/[redacted] (UNINJURED)
(LA CRESCENTA VALLEY SHERIFF'S STATION)

EVIDENCE HELD:

Item #1 - Lower portion of an aluminum crutch, 20 1/4 inches in length.

Item #2 - One small round piece of aluminum.

Item #3 - Copper jacketing from an expended bullet.

Item #4 - Upper portion of a broken aluminum crutch, 37 inches in length.

Item #5 - One expended bullet casing, 9mm Luger.

Item #6 - One expended bullet casing, 9mm Luger.

Item #7 - One expended bullet casing, 9mm Luger.

Item #8 - One expended bullet casing, 9mm Luger.

Item #9 - One expended bullet casing, 9mm Luger.

em #10- One expended bullet casing, 9mm Luger.

em #11- One expended bullet casing, 9mm Luger.

em #12- One expended bullet casing, 9mm Luger.

em #13- One expended bullet casing, 9mm Luger.

em #14- One expended bullet casing, 9mm Luger.

em #15- One expended bullet recovered from the suspect's clothing.

em #16- One expended bullet recovered from the suspect's clothing.

em #17- One expended bullet recovered from the suspect's clothing.

em #18- One armpit pad for a crutch.

em #19- One VHS videotape.

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12-18-94 at approximately 0035 hours, Investigators were con-
cted at their respective residences and directed to assist
rgeant Harris and Investigator Taylor with a deputy involved
ooting investigation in the street in front of ████ Montrose
enue, Glendale.

vestigator Scott arrived at approximately 0135 hours and
vestigator Havercroft arrived at approximately 0200 hours to
nduct their investigation.

the request of Sergeant Harris and Investigator Taylor,
vestigators Havercroft and Scott conducted a crime scene inves-
gation at the location.

sisting Investigators were Deputies Falicon and Calzada from the
eriff's Scientific Services Bureau. These deputies took colored
otographs and a VHS videotape of the scene as Investigators
und it. They also took measurements of the scene and the loca-
on of the evidence held items so that a detailed sketch could be
nstructed depicting the exact location of Evidence Held Items
thin an overall view of the scene.

eir report regarding their actions, when completed, will become
permanent part of this file. The sketch, upon completion, will
so become a permanent part of this file.

Investigators noted the scene to be in the westbound lane of Montrose Avenue in the [redacted] block, which is just inside the city limits of Glendale. Montrose Avenue is an east/west street, and is 63 feet 8 inches wide. The street at the location is striped for one lane of traffic in each direction. In addition there is a painted center divider striped for left turns from either direction.

The westbound side of Montrose Avenue in the immediate area of the scene, has no curb. There is an area of approximately 5 feet in width of dirt between the end of the asphalt pavement and the property line of the structures on the north side of the street. In this area, parallel parking is permitted.

Immediately east of the scene there is a north curbline and sidewalk between the street and the property line. In this area diagonal parking is permitted. The south side of Montrose Avenue has a continuous curb and sidewalk, which separates the street from the property lines. In this area diagonal parking is permitted.

The westbound lane of Montrose Avenue measures 21 feet 6 inches from the outside portion of the center medium to the curb or end of asphalt. The center medium measures 10 feet 8 inches. The eastbound portion of Montrose Avenue measures 31 feet 10 inches from the outside portion of the center medium to the south curbline.

La Crescenta Avenue is a north/south street west of the scene and Rosemont Avenue is a north/south street east of the scene.

There are multiunit two story apartment buildings on both sides of the street in the proximity of the crime scene. In addition there is a church located on the south side of the street just east of the crime scene. All of these structures face the street.

Weather conditions at the time of the incident were clear and the moon was full. There was artificial light projected onto the scene from overhead street lights; one was located in front of [redacted] Montrose Avenue, further described as 352 feet east of the east curbline of La Crescenta Avenue and 15 feet north of the end of the pavement of Montrose Avenue. There was another overhead street light located in front of [redacted] Montrose Avenue, further described as 606 feet 4 inches east of the east curbline of La Crescenta Avenue and at the north curbline of Montrose Avenue. There is an additional overhead street light located in front of the church at [redacted] Montrose Avenue, further described as 576 feet 4 inches east of the east curbline of La Crescenta Avenue at the south curbline of Montrose Avenue. In addition there are two high powered white vapor lights on the face of the apartment building at [redacted] Montrose Avenue. These lights added to the illumination

of the scene, and the lights are approximately 500 feet east of the east curbline of La Crescenta Avenue.

The following is a west to east progression of evidence held items found within the crime scene, all located in the westbound lanes of Montrose Avenue. Measurements are from the east curbline of La Crescenta Avenue and the south curbline of Montrose Avenue.

A black and white radio car bearing Los Angeles County vehicle number #31750, was stopped facing westbound in the westbound lane of Montrose Avenue with the left front wheel 400 feet east of the east curbline of Crescenta Avenue, and 52 feet 4 inches north of the south curbline of Montrose Avenue (Deputy Gabriel's vehicle.) The driver's door of the vehicle was open and both front windows were down. Investigators found Deputy Gabriel's baton in the driver's door storage well.

Immediately to the right of this radio car was a 1988 Toyota pickup, California license #[redacted] This vehicle was paralleled parked in the dirt and to the extreme northern portion of the asphalt of westbound Montrose Avenue.

Investigators found Evidence Held Item #1 (broken lower portion of the crutch) on the pavement immediately south of the open driver's door of the radio car. Further described as 407 feet 8 inches east of the east curbline of La Crescenta Avenue, and 45 feet 6 inches north of the south curbline of Montrose Avenue.

Further east, Investigators found a second black and white radio car, bearing County identification #30128 (Deputy Dino's vehicle), stopped facing westbound in the westbound lane of Montrose Avenue. Further described as 452 feet 4 inches east of the east curbline of La Crescenta Avenue, and 47 feet 7 inches north of the south curbline of Montrose Avenue. Investigators found this vehicle with the driver's door open and all windows closed. Deputy Dino's baton was found in a storage well between the two front bucket seats. The patrol vehicles were stopped facing westbound, and generally in the middle of the westbound lane of Montrose Avenue.

Further east, Investigators found the suspect's body lying in the northern portion of the westbound lane of Montrose Avenue. Further described as 513 feet 5 inches east of the east curbline of La Crescenta Avenue, and 58 feet 6 inches north of the south curbline of Montrose Avenue. The suspect was lying on his back with his head to the north and his feet to the south. His head was facing in an easterly direction. The suspect was wearing a black leather jacket that was unbuttoned. A blue button shirt also unbuttoned and a black scarf around his neck. He was wearing blue Levis, a black belt, and black cowboy boots. The jacket and shirt were open and there was evidence of paramedic intervention.

Investigators noticed multiple gunshot wounds to the chest, right and left forearms and hands. There was minimum blood spattering on the asphalt immediately north of the suspect's head. Adjacent to the suspect's left side, Investigators recovered Evidence Held Item #2, a small round piece of aluminum (approximate size of a bullet), from the asphalt, 515 feet 1 inch east of the east curbline of La Crescenta Avenue and 59 feet 10 inches north of the south curbline of Montrose Avenue.

Evidence Held Item #3, a portion of copper jacketing from a expended bullet, was recovered 517 feet 6 inches east of La Crescenta Avenue and 59 feet 2 inches north of the south curbline of Montrose Avenue.

Evidence Held Item #4, upper portion of a broken aluminum crutch, was found 520 feet 10 inches east of the east curbline of La Crescenta Avenue, and 63 feet 10 inches north of the south curbline of Montrose Avenue. Examining this crutch, Investigators noted the armpit pad for the crutch was missing. Immediately below the top portion of the crutch, Investigators found what appeared to be a bullet hole that entered both portions of the frame work and exited.

Investigators found blood spattering in the area immediately adjacent to these bullet holes. Investigators also found that the lower portion of the frame work below the hand support were broken and had jagged edges.

Further east in an area ranging from approximately 10 to 20 feet east of the suspect's body and parallel to the body, Investigators recovered Evidence Held Items #5 through #14, expended 9mm Luger shell casings.

In reference to Items #5 through #14 locations, "east" refers to the east curbline of La Crescenta Avenue and "north" refers to south curbline of Montrose Avenue.

These casings are further described as Evidence Held Item #5, recovered 524 feet 2 inches east of the east and 59 feet 1 inch north.

Evidence Held Item #6, recovered 525 feet 9 inches east and 59 feet 5 inches north. Evidence Held Item #7, recovered 527 feet 3 inches east and 55 feet north.

Evidence Held Item #8, recovered 528 feet 8 inches east and 58 feet north. Evidence Held Item #9, recovered 526 feet 4 inches east and 63 feet 7 inches north. Evidence Held Item #10, recovered 529 feet 6 inches east and 62 feet 2 inches north. Evidence Held Item #11, recovered 531 feet east and 61 feet 10 inches north.

Evidence Held Item #12, recovered 531 feet 2 inches east and 58 feet north. Evidence Held Item #13, recovered 532 feet 4 inches east and 60 feet 5 inches north. Evidence Held Item #14, recovered from underneath the driver's portion of an 1988 Ford full size pickup truck, California license # which was diagonally parked in front of Montrose Avenue, further described as 535 feet 7 inches east and 63 feet 10 inches north.

At approximately 0325 hours, Deputy Coroner Philip Dituri, Los Angeles County Medical Examiner's Office, arrived at the scene and took control of the suspect's body. During Deputy Dituri's preliminary examination of the suspect, he discovered Evidence Held Items #15, #16 and #17, all of which are expended bullets, found within the suspect's clothing.

Evidence Held Item #15 was found in the rear shoulder area. Evidence Held Item #16 in the left front chest area and Evidence Held Item #17 in the left rear back area. All 17 items of evidence were seized by Investigators.

At approximately 0338 hours, Deputy Coroner Dituri administered GSR Kit #4569.

On 12-18-94 at approximately 0400 hours, Investigators went to the area of Montrose Avenue. In front of that location, Investigators found a brown Dodge Van with California license # parallel parked on the north side of the street.

Investigators examined this vehicle and found what appeared to be scuff marks on the window on the left side of the vehicle near its rear. These scuff marks had an imprint consistent with the rubber cushion found on the bottom portion of the aluminum crutch. Just west of this vehicle, Investigators recovered Evidence Held Item #18, the armpit pad for the crutch. This pad was recovered from the westbound lane of Montrose Avenue approximately 2066 feet 6 inches east of the east curbline of La Crescenta Avenue and approximately 59 feet north of the south curbline of Montrose Avenue.

On 12-18-94 at approximately 0640 hours, Investigator Scott received a telephone call at Crescenta Valley Sheriff's Station from the suspect's of .

Mrs. was calling in response to her being notified of her death by uniformed patrol deputies from Crescenta Valley Station just prior to the phone call. During that conversation with Detective Scott, Mrs. informed him that her had a long history of mental illness and he had been in and out of mental hospitals for years.

She acknowledged that her [REDACTED] had a "temper" problem and he became violent when he drinks alcoholic beverages. She also stated he takes medication to control his illness, but he frequently neglects to take it. During the conversation with Detective Scott, Mrs. [REDACTED] suggested the deputy should have shot her [REDACTED] in the foot and that they did not have to kill him.

Investigators released all 19 items of evidence seized by them, which included the VHS videotape of the scene, made by Deputy Calzada to Sergeant Harris and Investigator Taylor.

Investigation continuing with further reports to follow.

BY: INVESTIGATOR ROBERT HAVERCROFT, #[REDACTED]
INVESTIGATOR MICHAEL SCOTT, #[REDACTED]
APPROVED: LIEUTENANT DERRY BENEDICT
DETECTIVE DIVISION, HOMICIDE BUREAU

LEON/WPII

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COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES - SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT - SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

DATE JANUARY 5, 1995 **FILE NO.** 094-06208-0780-057

C- ASSAULT WITH A DEADLY WEAPON ON A DEPUTY SHERIFF - 245(B) P.C./DEPUTY INVOLVED SHOOTING **Action Taken** ACTIVE/INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED/EVIDENCE HELD/WITNESSES INTERVIEWED/VICTIMS INTERVIEWED/CC #94-10758

V- **(SEE BELOW)**

D- 12-18-94 (SUNDAY) AT 0006 HOURS

L- [REDACTED] MONTROSE AVENUE, GLENDALE

S- **CEASE, AARON WESLEY** MW/30, DOB: 03-01-64 (DECEASED)

VICTIMS

V #1 - **GABRIEL, GREGORY JAMES** MW/[REDACTED], DEPUTY SHERIFF, #[REDACTED]

V #2 - **DINO, PAUL PHILLIP** MW/[REDACTED], DEPUTY SHERIFF, #[REDACTED]

WITNESSES

W #1 - [REDACTED] MW/17, DOB: [REDACTED]

W #2 - [REDACTED] MW/17, DOB: [REDACTED]

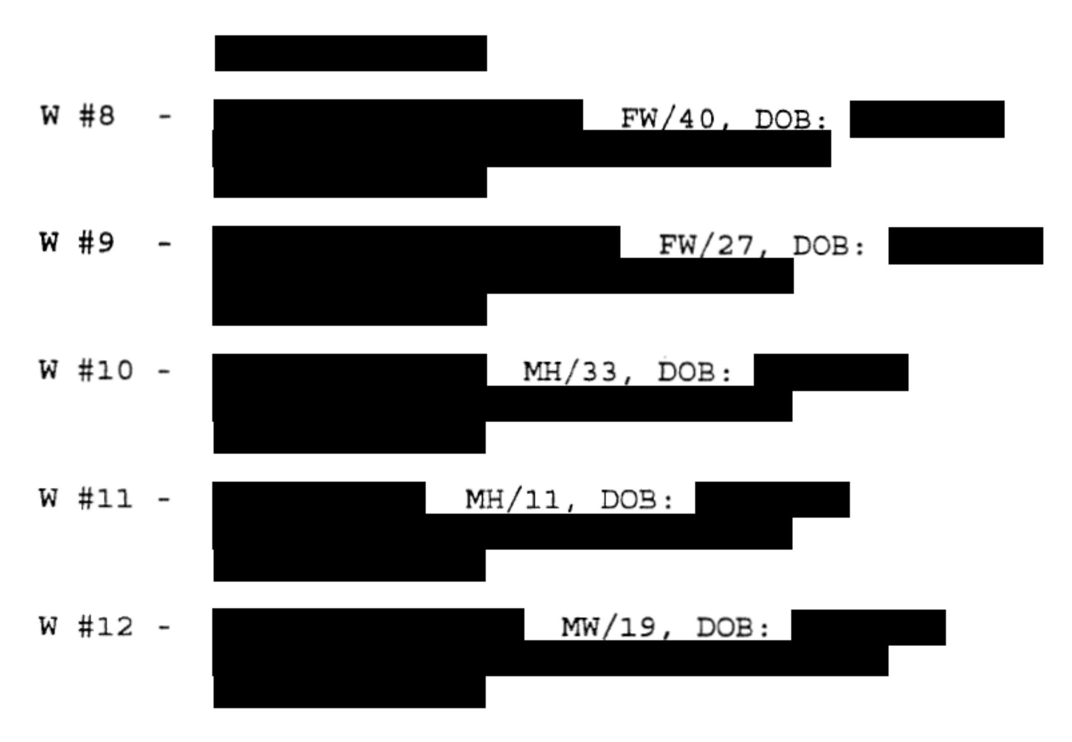
W #3 - [REDACTED] MW/18, DOB: [REDACTED]

W #4 - [REDACTED] MW/17, DOB: [REDACTED]

W #5 - [REDACTED] MW/16, DOB: [REDACTED]

W #6 - [REDACTED] FW/12, DOB: [REDACTED]

W #7 - [REDACTED] FW/15, DOB: [REDACTED]



W #8 - FW/40, DOB:

W #9 - FW/27, DOB:

W #10 - MH/33, DOB:

W #11 - MH/11, DOB:

W #12 - MW/19, DOB:

EVIDENCE HELD

Item #20 - Pieces of a broken 1 liter bottle of "Gallo Levingston Cellar; Chablis, Chenin Blanc," and one wine cork, recovered from the pavement in front of Montrose Avenue, Montrose.

Item #21 - One cassette tape containing a male voice conversation and music, recovered from the residence located at Montrose Avenue, Montrose.

Item #22 - Two prescription medicine vials bearing the name "Aaron Cease," recovered from the residence located at Montrose Avenue, Montrose.

Item #23 - Two L.A. County coroner's envelopes containing firearm evidence, recovered during autopsy by Dr. Susan Selser, CC#94-10758, lab receipt #H684822.

Item #24 - One Beretta, 9mm pistol, model #92F, serial #BER Z, lab receipt #H684821.

Item #25 - One Beretta, 9mm pistol, model #92F, serial #BER Z, lab receipt #H684821.

Note: Evidence Held Items #24 and #25 were held and subsequently released to Lieutenant Kerrigan of the Crescenta Valley Sheriff's Station.

Item #26 - One expended bullet received from the Crescenta Valley Sheriff's Station, evidence locker.

Item #27 - One "Maxwell" cassette tape containing tape recorded interviews of Witnesses [redacted] and [redacted].

Item #28 - One "Maxwell" cassette tape containing tape recorded interviews of Witnesses [redacted] and [redacted] [redacted].

Item #29 - One "Maxwell" cassette tape containing tape recorded interviews of Deputies Gregory Gabriel and Paul Dino.

Item #30 - One "Maxwell" cassette tape containing tape recorded interview of Witness [redacted].

Item #31 - One audio graphics systems cassette tape containing 911 dispatcher and 911 emergency calls to the Glendale P.D. on 12-18-94 from 0005 hours to 0008 hours.

Item #32 - One "Maxwell" cassette tape containing L.A. County Sheriff's radio frequency Dispatch #1 on 12-17-94, 2355 hours to 12-18-94, 0030 hours.

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On 12-18-94 (Sunday) at 0035 hours, Investigators were dispatched to [redacted] Montrose Avenue, Glendale, to investigate the deputy involved shooting, resulting in the death of Suspect Aaron Wesley Cease MW/30.

Upon arrival at the location, Investigators contacted Crescenta Valley, Handling Unit 71 EM's Deputies Randall Kidd #[redacted] and Jerry Rossiter #[redacted].

Deputies Kidd and Rossiter advised they responded to an assistance call from Units 76 and 76A, Deputies Gabriel and Dino, who advised they had been involved in a shooting and that the suspect was "down."

Upon their arrival, they observed Suspect Cease lying in the westbound lane of the street and also observed a broken metal crutch lying on the pavement, approximately 5 feet northeast of Suspect Cease. They also saw several Glendale P.D. patrol units, as well as Unit 71S, Sergeant Noennick, who arrived at 0014 hours and assisted in coordinating and containment of the scene. L.A. County Fire Squad #63, under the direction of Captain Robinson, arrived at 0015 hours. Suspect Cease was pronounced dead by Paramedic DeLeon at 0018 hours.

The deputies advised they identified several eyewitnesses to the shooting incident, four of which voluntarily responded to the Crescenta Valley Sheriff's Station to await interview by Investigators. A remaining witness refused to respond to the station; however, indicated he would be available for interview at his residence, if needed.

The deputies said that Deputies Gabriel and Dino had arrived at the location in response to a 918V call, man with a crutch, hitting parked vehicles and chasing pedestrians. After contacting the informant, they began checking the area westbound on Montrose Avenue.

Deputy Gabriel located the suspect in front of the apartment building, at ███ Montrose Avenue, Glendale. The suspect was in the process of hitting a vehicle with a metal crutch when Deputy Gabriel arrived.

The deputies advised when Deputy Gabriel got out of his patrol vehicle to contact the suspect, the suspect began running toward Deputy Gabriel, making threats and swinging the metal crutch at him. As he was swinging the crutch, the end broke off and landed adjacent to the left front tire of Deputy Gabriel's patrol vehicle.

As this was occurring, Deputy Dino arrived and joined Deputy Gabriel, who was quickly walking backward, away from the suspect.

The deputies said both Deputy Gabriel and Deputy Dino had their guns drawn and pointed at the suspect. They were ordering the suspect to stop and drop the crutch.

The suspect ignored the deputies' orders and continued his attack, thrusting the jagged end of the metal crutch at the deputies and verbally threatening them.

The deputies said the suspect was within 6 to 8 feet of the deputies when he was shot. Both deputies, fearing for their lives, fired approximately five rounds each, striking him several times.

Investigators were escorted through the crime scene by Deputies Kidd and Rossiter.

Documentation and investigation of the crime scene was detailed to Investigators Robert Havercroft and Michael Scott. Investigators responded to the Crescenta Valley Sheriff's Station to interview the witnesses.

Present during the interviews was Sergeant Gary Huggans #███, L.A. County Sheriff's Department, Internal Affairs Bureau.



At approximately 0318 hours, Investigators interviewed Witness ███.

Witness ███ stated he, along with four friends, had just left ███ dinner/dance held at the ███ on the ███ of La Crescenta Boulevard and Montrose Avenue, Glendale.

Witness ███ stated his friend, ███, was driving eastbound on Montrose Avenue when they observed a stopped Sheriff's unit. They observed a deputy and a male individual, who he thought may have exited a vehicle; however, did not know from which vehicle. He stated the male was by the open door of a vehicle with a crutch in his hand, walking towards the deputy. The deputy was walking backwards. He observed the deputy pull his weapon from his holster and point it at the male. Witness ███ stated he thought the male to be under the influence of drugs because of his (Suspect Cease) bizarre behavior.

Having passed the location, they decided to return to see what was happening. As they drove back, they came to a stop in the middle of the street, facing westbound, and noticed there were now two deputies standing approximately three feet from each other. Both deputies had their weapons pointed at the suspect and were walking backwards.

Witness ███ stated there were actually five persons in his vehicle, but one person, Witness ███ had already been taken home before he and the remaining friends responded to the Crescenta Valley Sheriff's Station for interview.

Witness ███ stated he was seated in the right, rear seat of their vehicle when he first saw the suspect, who was approximately 50 feet from him.

Once returning to the location, they pulled up and stopped approximately 30 feet behind the deputies with their vehicle turned slightly to the left. From that vantage point, he could look directly out the side, rear window and see the deputies.

He stated the windows in the vehicle were up, therefore he could not hear anything. However, he could tell the deputies were yelling by their motions. He continued, saying the suspect was steadily walking towards the deputies. It seemed the suspect got too close to the deputies, approximately 10 to 15 feet. He then heard two shots; however, the suspect kept walking as if nothing had happened.

Witness ███ described the suspect as holding the crutch across his chest, approaching in a threatening manner. He stated there was a pause of two to three seconds after the first two

shots and then two additional shots. Another pause of two to three seconds and then approximately five shots. He stated the suspect did not fall until after the five shots were fired. At that point the suspect put his hand to his chest, dropped the crutch, put his left hand on the ground, then fell on his left shoulder and back. After the suspect fell, the witnesses made a U-turn, travelling eastbound on Montrose Avenue, and drove Witness [redacted] home. They then decided to return to the scene, thinking the deputies might need help.

During the interview with the witness at 0346 hours, Sergeant Harris had to leave the room because of a phone call. The tape was turned off. In the short time that that tape was turned off, Witness [redacted] advised Investigator Taylor and Sergeant Huggans that, "Cops had no choice. They had to do it. That's why we came back. We thought they might get in trouble for shooting so many times, but all the shots were necessary."

Witness [redacted] could add nothing further at this time and the interview was terminated. The tape recorded interview of Witness [redacted] will be entered into evidence.

At 0353 hours, Investigators interviewed Witness [redacted] [redacted].

Witness [redacted] stated he and his friends were coming from a [redacted] [redacted] dinner/dance held at the [redacted] located at La Crescenta Boulevard and Montrose Avenue, when they noticed a police unit and a male, who appeared to have gotten out of a vehicle. They noticed the deputy take out his weapon and the male to be holding a crutch with both hands in front of him. At first glance, Witness [redacted] thought the suspect was carrying a baseball bat because of the way he was holding it. However, he noticed it was too long to be a baseball bat, so then he thought it might be a crutch. He stated after passing and observing what was taking place, he decided to go back and see what was happening. He was driving the vehicle and stated he went approximately half a block and made a U-turn. Returning to the location, he stopped in the middle of the street, now facing westbound, shortly behind the deputies. As he was turning his vehicle around, he saw a second radio unit pull up. After completing his turn, he stopped in a westerly direction and observed both deputies out of their vehicle. He stated the deputies were backing up. They were approximately 100 feet from the deputies when he first observed them walking backwards. He stated the suspect got very close to the deputies. Witness [redacted] said the deputies were yelling; however, he could not tell what they were saying. He stated the suspect kept walking towards the deputies, picking up his pace.

Witness [redacted] described the suspect as having his right hand on the base of the object and his left hand towards the middle of the object, holding it across his chest.

Witness [redacted] stated the windows in their vehicle were up and that is why they could not hear what was being said. Witness [redacted] stated there were five people in his vehicle, a white 1988 Nissan, Sentra. He also stated the car windows were not tinted.

Witness [redacted] stated as the deputies were backing up, he first heard two or four shots. He stated the suspect kept walking toward the deputies and from the reaction of his (Suspect Cease) body, he had been hit, but continued walking. After the next four or five shots, the suspect fell down slowly.

Witness [redacted] stated the suspect appeared to be "high" because he did not hesitate when first shot. The suspect did not appear crippled or handicap and was not using the crutch to assist him in walking.

Witness [redacted] stated he was driving his vehicle, [redacted] was in the right, front passenger seat, [redacted] was in the right, rear passenger seat, [redacted] was in the left, rear seat, and [redacted] was seated in the middle of the rear seat.

He stated from the time they first saw the deputy until the shooting occurred, he estimated was approximately one minute.

Witness [redacted] could add nothing further at this time and the interview was terminated at 0418 hours. The interview was tape recorded and placed into evidence.

At 0423 hours, Investigators interviewed Witness [redacted]

Witness [redacted] stated he had attended the [redacted] [redacted] dinner/dance held at the [redacted] located on the [redacted] of La Crescenta Boulevard and Montrose Avenue. En route home, eastbound on Montrose, they observed the deputies. He observed a male with a stick or club in his hand, standing in the middle of the street. He noticed two deputies standing in front of the person. He stated he could tell the deputies were yelling because of their movements, but could not hear what was being said. Witness [redacted] thought the suspect was holding two swords or clubs close together in his hand and observed the suspect walking "in a stumbling fashion," toward the deputies. The deputies were walking backwards. Witness [redacted] stated he was looking through the center of the windshield, as he was seated in the middle of the rear seat. He stated the suspect kept charging the deputies. He then heard the deputies fire two shots. He thought the deputies had shot in the air because he noticed no response by the suspect. He stated the suspect kept coming and the deputies kept



backing up. The deputies then fired about four additional shots. Witness [REDACTED] thought two shots were fired by one deputy and the other two shots from the other deputy. He stated the suspect continued advancing toward the deputies. While the deputies were retreating, they fired about five more shots. At that point the suspect stumbled and fell down slowly.

Witness [REDACTED] stated at that point, they backed up, turned around, and left the location. They took Witness [REDACTED] home and then returned to the location to see if the deputies needed any witnesses. He stated the windows in their vehicle were up and were not tinted. Witness [REDACTED] said none of the individuals in the vehicle had been drinking alcohol or using drugs.

When Witness [REDACTED] was asked how far he thought the suspect was from the deputies, he stated approximately two feet.

Witness [REDACTED] could add nothing further at this time and the interview was terminated. The interview was tape recorded and placed into evidence.

On 12-18-94 (Sunday) at 0452 hours, interviewed Witness [REDACTED].

Witness [REDACTED] stated he and his friends left the [REDACTED] located on the [REDACTED] of La Crescenta Boulevard and Montrose Avenue, where they had attended a [REDACTED] dinner/dance and were travelling eastbound on Montrose Avenue. Witness [REDACTED] stated he was seated in the right, front passenger seat. He noticed a male walking toward the deputies with a crutch in his hand. He stated the suspect looked as if he was "on something" because of the way he was acting. At that point, Witness [REDACTED] saw the deputy take his weapon out. He could not hear what was being said because the car windows were up; however, he could tell the deputy was yelling. While still travelling eastbound, they observed a second unit pull up. A deputy exited and ran toward the first deputy. After proceeding about half a block, they turned around and went back. Facing westbound, they stopped in the middle of the street, about 25 feet from the deputies. He thought they stopped straight ahead. He was looking through the front windshield from the right front seat. Both deputies had their weapons drawn. The deputies were walking backwards and the suspect kept walking towards them. He stated as the deputies retreated, they shot twice. He saw at least one bullet hole appear on the suspect's chest; however, the suspect continued to advance. He stated the deputies fired two more rounds and thought those bullets also hit the suspect; however, the suspect continued to advance toward the deputies. At that point, the deputies continued firing.



Witness [redacted] believes there were nine rounds fired in total. He stated the suspect then dropped down and dropped the object that he had in his hand. He had the object in both hands, across his chest, like he was going to attack. He stated, in his opinion, the suspect was approximately six feet from the deputies when he finally went down. He stated it was maybe a little bit farther than that when they first fired; however, he continued advancing. At that point, Witness [redacted] and his friends left the location. They drove Witness [redacted] home and then decided to return to the scene.

Witness [redacted] could add nothing further at this time and the interview was terminated. The interview was tape recorded and placed into evidence.

At approximately 0612 hours, Investigators interviewed Deputy **GREGORY GABRIEL** #[redacted]. Sergeant Huggans was no longer present in the conference room.

Deputy Gregory stated he had just finished a [redacted] on Commonwealth Avenue when a call came out to assist Unit 77 in La Crescenta. As they were en route to that call, the call came out of a possible 918V. He stated that call was delivered audible and on the MDT. The call stated the individual was on Montrose Avenue acting bizarre, hitting cars with a crutch.

Deputy Gabriel stated he was on Foothill Boulevard and headed toward Montrose Avenue. He was westbound on Montrose Avenue and observed a person in front of the informant's location. He made a U-turn and the male informant, or who he thought was the informant, came to the car and told him that a "crazy man" was yelling at people and acting bizarre. At that point, the man described the suspect and stated he was westbound on the north side of the street. Deputy Gabriel turned his vehicle around, at which time he advised Unit 76A of what the informant had told him. He drove approximately two blocks and saw the suspect standing next to a red or dark brown pickup truck, beating on it with a crutch. Deputy Gabriel stopped his vehicle and yelled, "Hey, come over here." The suspect turned around and had a crutch in his hand. The suspect started approaching the deputy. Deputy Gabriel stated as the suspect was approaching him, it actually made the hair on the back of his neck stand up. The suspect kept walking towards him, swinging and making stabbing motions at him. At that point, Deputy Gabriel was yelling, "Put it down, put it down." The suspect yelled, "I'm going to kill you mother fucker, shoot me, kill me." At some point, Deputy Dino arrived and joined Deputy Gabriel. The two deputies were walking backwards with the suspect approaching them, making these statements. He stated the suspect picked up his pace and they then picked up their pace, while walking backwards; however, the suspect kept coming.



Deputy Gabriel said he considered using pepper spray or his baton on the suspect, but the crutch appeared threatening, with the suspect swinging and poking the crutch at them saying, "What you going to do mother fucker?" He said the suspect continued to converge and he feared being stabbed with the crutch. Deputy Gabriel stated he does not know at what point the crutch broke. He stated during the initial confrontation he saw the bottom end of the crutch fall off. He believed it was by the front of his patrol vehicle, but does not know for sure.

He saw the sharp edges on the crutch and started thinking about a briefing they received that day, prior to the shift, about edged weapons and the fact that the protective vest would not offer any protection against edge weapons.

He stated as they continued walking backwards and yelling, as their pace quickened. They were unsure of what was behind them and what their footing was. He said he fired one round and saw it hit the suspect's center chest. He said the suspect looked down, toward his chest and continued his advance. Both deputies fired again and the suspect continued advancing. They then fired an additional volley, he believes five rounds total. At the end of the third volley the suspect went down and he and Deputy Dino both stated, "Why did you make us do this?" Deputy Gabriel stated when he first contacted the suspect, he was by the right front bumper of his radio unit. As he was approaching, he got to a distance of five to seven feet away. Throughout this confrontation, he had his flashlight in his left hand and his weapon in his right hand. He knew they had to do something and again stated he considered pepper spray. He stated the suspect was obviously "on something." Deputy Gabriel did not have confidence the pepper spray would work and had both hands occupied with his flashlight and weapon.

Deputy Gabriel stated the call was originally assigned to Unit 76 and Unit 76A and Unit 71S. He stated he knew Unit 71S was in the city of Altadena involved in a 415 "party call" and stated because of the fact that when he observed the suspect, the suspect had already been confronting persons in the area. And because of the suspect's bizarre actions, there was no way they could wait for any less than lethal weapons to arrive.

Deputy Gabriel stated he was carrying his departmental issued Beretta 92F and that it was fully loaded with 15 rounds in the magazine and one round in the chamber with the safety on. He stated he was also using departmental issued ammunition. At this point, Investigators received, from Deputy Gabriel, his departmental issued weapon, serial #BER[redacted]Z. It was examined by Investigator Taylor and unloaded.

Deputy Gabriel could add nothing further at this time and the interview was terminated. The interview was tape recorded and held



as evidence in this case. Deputy Gabriel was issued another weapon by the Crescenta Valley Station Watch Commander.

At approximately 0658 hours, Investigators interviewed Deputy **PAUL PHILLIP DINO #[redacted]**.

Deputy Dino stated he received a call of a 918V, along with Unit 76, Deputy Gabriel. He stated the call was on Montrose Avenue in the unincorporated area of Los Angeles County. He stated that the call would normally go to Unit 77; however, Unit 77 was unavailable. While en route to the call he was advised by Deputy Gabriel that he, Gabriel, spoke with an informant and found out that a male White, 6 feet to 6 feet 2 inches, was yelling and screaming and waving a crutch. He advised him the suspect was westbound on Montrose Avenue. He stated he had been eastbound on Montrose Avenue and made a U-turn to go westbound. He stated he observed Deputy Gabriel stop his patrol vehicle and saw Deputy Gabriel get out of the vehicle. He saw the suspect approaching Deputy Gabriel. He stated as he got closer, he saw the suspect had a metal crutch, holding it across his body. He exited his vehicle, ran up and stood next to Deputy Gabriel. As he approached, Deputy Gabriel was already walking backwards and the suspect was waving the crutch, yelling, "Fuck you, kill me." The two deputies then continued walking backwards with the suspect advancing on them. He stated they continued walking backwards for, what he thought was, approximately 100 feet. All this time, the suspect was making threatening motions with this crutch. He described those motions as swinging it and making stabbing motions or jousting motions with the crutch. He said they came to a stop and the suspect continued advancing towards them. As the suspect continued advancing, making threatening motions, Deputy Gabriel fired the first shot then he fired almost simultaneously. He stated the suspect continued advancing and they fired again, ultimately putting the suspect down. Deputy Dino went back and stated the suspect's location was approximately a half a mile or less from where the original informant had called from. He did not see the suspect, himself, until after Deputy Gabriel had already exited his vehicle and contacted the suspect. As he ran to Deputy Gabriel, Deputy Gabriel had his weapon out and was yelling at the suspect. The suspect was waving the crutch. The bottom of the crutch had already broken off at that point. They both continued yelling for the suspect to drop the crutch and he stated the crutch was ragged and sharp. It appeared the suspect might be under the influence of a controlled substance or a stimulant and have a mental disorder. He stated the suspect continually picked up his pace as he was closing the distance between them. He again stated they could not see behind them and they finally had to stop. As they were backing up throughout the entire confrontation, they continued yelling at the suspect to drop the crutch; however, the suspect continued yelling back, "Kill me, kill me." He stated they finally had to stop because of the quickening pace



of the suspect, and being unsure of what was behind them. As the suspect closed the distance, he felt that their lives were in danger. He stated the suspect was approximately 6 to 7 feet away from them at the time that they fired the first round. He stated after the first two rounds were fired, the suspect hunched over slightly; however, stood straight up again and continued to advance. He stated they both fired and then he believes he fired all five shots at the same time. At that point, the suspect fell onto his left shoulder, then left side, then to his back.

Deputy Dino stated he immediately put out a 998, deputy involved in a shooting. Deputy Gabriel approached the suspect and slid the crutch away from the suspect with his foot. He opened the suspect's shirt and examined his chest. He stated he did not see anyone else around the location at the time. He felt the suspect could use the crutch as a stabbing weapon that could go through his vest. He knew that there had been a discussion about edged weapons at the 2300 hour briefing; however, he was not present at that briefing. He stated the broken part of the crutch looked really sharp, but did not want to find out how sharp it was.

At this point the interview was terminated and Deputy Dino's weapon (serial #BER Z) was retrieved, examined, and unloaded by Detective Taylor. Deputy Dino was reissued a weapon by the Crescenta Valley Station Watch Commander.

At approximately 0804 hours, Investigators responded to and interviewed FW/56, DOB: , of the deceased, Aaron Cease.

Upon arrival at the location, Mrs. and a person who identified himself as Dr. , were outside of the location. Dr. stated he was the of the deceased; however, did not live with . He was extremely irate at the time and was not willing to allow Investigators to interview him. He stated he was going back to his residence, which is on a private drive, unaccessible to Investigators, and that he would not speak with them.

stated her Aaron Cease, was diagnosed as a major depressant or manic depressant and had been seeing Psychiatrist Dr. George Bixler, on a regular basis. She stated Dr. Bixler prescribed Xanix four times a day as a tranquilizer for her She also stated if her did not take his medication, he would become psychotic. She stated he had been hospitalized for his mental condition on numerous occasions. She often telephoned him when she got home. But she did not call him last night because she thought he would be asleep. She stated she saw him at approximately 7 p.m. and at that time, he had not been drinking. However, if he did drink he would get out of hand. She stated he last saw his doctor in November and refused to go see him last

week when he was supposed to. He stated he wanted a new doctor. Mrs. [redacted] stated it was not unusual for him, whenever he did not like what the doctor had to tell him, to change doctors. She stated he had been sick for approximately 12 years. She also stated the doctor told her he needed stronger medication; however, Aaron stated he liked the Xanix and was the only thing he was going to take.

She stated when she saw him at 7 p.m. that evening, prior to the incident, he was supposed to attend a dinner with her; however, he refused to go and she left him at home, by himself. She stated the reason he had the crutches is because he had suffered a sprained ankle or some sort of an ankle injury approximately one year ago and was issued the crutches until he recovered from that injury.

While at the location, Dr. [redacted] came into the house. Dr. [redacted] and Mrs. [redacted] got into an argument about the condition of Aaron Cease. Mrs. [redacted] was stating that he was a major depressant and Dr. [redacted] was arguing with her, stating he was a paranoid schizophrenic. After a short argument, Dr. [redacted] again was very irate and left the location. At this point, Investigators offered their condolences and left the location.

The interview was not tape recorded.

At approximately 0850 hours, Investigators went to [redacted] [redacted], in the unincorporated area of Los Angeles County.

Evidence Held Item #20 (a broken wine bottle) was observed in front of the location, in the street at the base of the driveway. Investigators recovered the broken wine bottle and went to [redacted] [redacted], the residence of Aaron Cease. The door of the residence was open. Inside the residence they observed two additional empty wine bottles, both the same as that recovered in the street, one liter bottles of "Gallo Levingston Cellars, Chablis, Chenin Blanc." Investigators observed swastikas painted on the walls and on papers throughout the location and a lot of German writing. They also observed a cassette tape in the tape recorder and remembered that Mrs. [redacted] had stated that when she left him at home, Aaron stated he was going to made a tape for her. Investigators played a little bit of the tape and it appeared it was chanting or something unintelligible. That item was also taken as evidence. Investigators also found a cork they believed to be from a wine bottle, which was also taken as evidence. Found in the bedroom were two prescription bottles with the name of Aaron Cease and the label stating it was generic for Xanix. These items were also taken into evidence. In the bedroom at the location, Investigators observed the second crutch that looked like it matched the one that had been previously broken and used as a weapon, leaning up against the wall inside the closet.



At approximately 0900 hours, Investigators went to [redacted] and interviewed [redacted] MH/33, DOB: [redacted] This residence is located directly [redacted] and [redacted] of [redacted], Suspect Aaron Cease's residence.

Mr. [redacted] stated that Aaron, his [redacted] is always yelling and screaming things that are unintelligible. Mr. [redacted] stated he had been getting worse in recent weeks and had been acting more violent. He stated he always yelled things like, "Me and him are one," then would throw things, slam doors, and yell loudly, "Kill, kill, kill."

Mr. [redacted] stated that just before 12 a.m., last night, he heard Aaron walk out of his house, screaming and yelling. He stated he did not hear exactly what he was saying; however, he could hear that he was yelling.

Investigators then spoke with Mr. [redacted] MH/11, who stated he had been in the living room, getting ready for Christmas when he heard Aaron yelling and slamming doors. He stated he heard Aaron slam the door to his house and then come outside. He looked out the window and saw Aaron with a crutch in his hand; however, he was not using it to assist him with walking. He walked toward the base of the driveway and then threw a wine bottle on the street. The suspect yelled, "You stupid bottle, look what you did. I'll kill you all." He then saw Aaron walk westbound on Montrose Avenue, out of sight.

[redacted] could add nothing further at this time and the interview was terminated. The interview was not recorded.

On 12-19-94 (Monday) at approximately 0930 hours, Sergeant Harris attended the post mortem examination of Suspect Cease at the Los Angeles County Medical Examiner's Office, which was conducted by Dr. Selser. During the examination, x-rays showed two expended bullets within the body of the deceased and bullet fragments on both elbows and the right hand. There was also a lead fragment that was recovered under the elbow, while photographing the victim at the coroner's office. An additional expended bullet was recovered from the clothing by the x-ray technician and photographer. Also during examination, there was an expended bullet recovered just under the tenth rib, in the back of the suspect and an expended bullet recovered from directly behind the spine, under the pelvis of the suspect. The entry wounds were in the left portion of the body, from the left chest to the left side, from the breast down to the hip. There were nine entry wounds. Dr. Selser ascribed the cause of death to be multiple gunshot wounds.

A detailed results of Dr. Selser's examination and findings will



be listed in the coroner's report, to be completed and made a permanent part of this file. The evidence from the coroner's office was released to Sergeant Harris.

On 12-20-94 (Tuesday) at 1030 hours, Sergeant Harris responded to the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Criminalistic Laboratory, Firearms Section, where the recovered evidence from the coroner's office was booked into evidence under receipt #H684822. Also while at the crime lab, both deputies' weapons were test fired and returned to Sergeant Harris. They were booked in and released under receipt #H684821. Those weapons were subsequently returned to Crescenta Valley Station and released to Lieutenant Jerry Kerrigan.

On 12-20-94 (Tuesday) at 1455 hours, Investigators responded to [REDACTED] to interview [REDACTED] FW/12.

Ms. [REDACTED] said that on 12-17-94 (Saturday) around midnight, she, along with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] left an installation dance held at the [REDACTED] located on the [REDACTED] of La Crescenta Boulevard and Montrose Avenue. She said she was in the right, front passenger seat, in a vehicle being driven by [REDACTED]. She described the vehicle as being a brown, two door, possibly a Honda. She said they left the [REDACTED] travelling in an easterly direction on Montrose Avenue. After crossing La Crescenta Boulevard, she noticed two police units stopped in the middle of the street. As they passed the units, she heard the driver of their vehicle, Ms. [REDACTED] yell, "Holy shit, what's happening?" At this point she observed the deputies pointing their weapons at a man that was running toward them, (deputies). She said the deputies were moving backward and the man was swinging a metal object at the deputies. She said as they drove toward Rosemont, she looked back, viewing the incident from the rear window, and heard three gunshots being fired. She described the gunshots as being somewhat rapid succession. As this occurred, she saw the suspect holding a metal crutch with both hands, across his chest, still moving toward the deputies.

Ms. [REDACTED] thought for a minute and then advised Investigators that when she first saw the deputies, they were already at a point between the first and the second patrol units. The deputies at that time appeared to be talking to the suspect, who was approaching them and that the deputies were running backward.

Ms. [REDACTED] said the driver's window in their vehicle may have been down a little due to Ms. [REDACTED] being a smoker, but the rest of the windows were up. She could not hear what was being said, but knew there was an exchange of words between the deputies and the suspect. She said that as Ms. [REDACTED] approached Rosemont

Avenue she slowed down a little bit, but ████ told her to "go, go." That was after they had heard the gunshots.

Ms. ████ stated that since the incident she has not watched television or read the newspapers and had no additional information to offer. The interview was terminated at this time and the interview was not tape recorded.

On 12-20-94 (Tuesday) at 1540 hours, Investigators interviewed ████ at the Crescenta Valley Sheriff's Station.

Ms. ████ said that on Saturday night she attended a ████ ████ at the ████ located on the ████ of La Crescenta Boulevard and Montrose Avenue. At approximately 12:10 a.m., she left the location, along with ████ and ████. She said she was seated in the right, rear passenger seat in Ms. ████ car, which she described as a small, two door vehicle.

Ms. ████ said Ms. ████ was driving east on Montrose Avenue. As they approached an area east of La Crescenta, they noticed police units stopped in the middle of the street. She heard Ms. ████ comment, "Oh wow, look." She noticed deputies out of their units, stopped in the middle of the street, facing La Crescenta. As they drove by the incident she saw two deputies backing up, away from their patrol units and the suspect in front of them, walking quickly toward them. She said the suspect was yelling something loud, but because the windows in the vehicle were up she could not make out what was being said by either the suspect or the deputies, who were also yelling. She could plainly see the suspect had a crutch in his hands and appeared to be poking it in the direction of the deputies. She said there was an oncoming vehicle, headed westbound with its lights on, approaching the deputies. As the vehicle got somewhat close to the deputies, it stopped and then backed up. She estimated this vehicle backed up approximately one apartment complex east of the deputies' locations. The vehicle she was in continued to travel eastbound toward Rosemont. At this time, she looked out of the back window and observed the deputies' backs and the suspect still coming toward them. The vehicle she was in was travelling fairly slow and at one point, stopped. As they were turning from Montrose Avenue onto Rosemont, she heard four or five gunshots, which she said sounded like one shot, then two more shots fired together. She could plainly see that the crutch the suspect was carrying looked "beat up" and he was holding the top metal portion in his left hand with his left arm extended out, toward the deputies. She said that the underarm cushioning and the rubber foot that goes on the tip of the crutch, both appeared to be missing.

After the gunshots were fired she saw the suspect fall in, what she described, a side way motion, onto the ground. At that time,



they took [redacted] home. She stated that since the incident, she has somewhat been bothered by it. She read newspaper articles and obtained the suspect's name. She thought she may have known the brother of the suspect from a year book belonging to her older sister, who may have gone to school with the suspect.

Witness [redacted] could offer no further information at this time and the interview was terminated. This interview was not tape recorded.

On 12-20-94 (Tuesday) at 1655 hours, Investigators responded to [redacted] and interviewed [redacted] FW/27.

Witness [redacted] indicated she was the primary informant and had called 911 on the night of the incident to report the suspect, who was standing across the street from her house beating a crutch onto a brown van and chasing two men down the street with the crutch.

Witness [redacted] said that on the night of the incident, at approximately 11:00 p.m., she was in her bedroom watching television. She fell asleep at approximately 11:30 p.m.. She awakened to the sounds of someone beating on something and yelling, "I'm going to kill you mother fucker, I'm going to kill you." She said she went into the living room and looked out of the window that faces the north side of Montrose Avenue. However, she could not see what was going on from this window. She went outside, onto the front porch of her residence and observed a man on the north side of the street, pounding a crutch on a van parked in the driveway of the residence, directly across the street from her house. She described the van as maroon in color with stripes. The man appeared to be using a crutch to hit the van. As this was occurring, at least two different men came up to the suspect and told him to "knock it off." The suspect chased the men eastbound Montrose Avenue, yelling, "I'm going to kill you mother fucker." Witness [redacted] went back inside her house, obtained her portable telephone and called 911 to report the incident. She said she spoke with the deputies and told them that a white man with a crutch was chasing men and hitting on a van parked across the street from her house. She said the suspect appeared to be agitated and maybe intoxicated.

After dialing 911, she went to her front lawn and observed the suspect hitting the van again. The suspect then began to walk toward Rosemont Avenue, at which time she lost sight of the suspect. Approximately half an hour later she heard sirens going by, but did not know of the incident. Witness [redacted] said she does not know the suspect and had never seen him before. She also said during this incident, the suspect was continually screaming, "I'm going to kill you mother fucker."



Witness [REDACTED] could offer nothing further at this time and the interview was terminated. The interview was not tape recorded.

Investigators responded across the street from Witness [REDACTED] location where a burgundy van was parked, California license #[REDACTED]. The address was [REDACTED]. Investigators attempted to make contact at the location; however, there was no response at the door.

At approximately 1720 hours, Investigators contacted [REDACTED], at the [REDACTED] Store located at [REDACTED] Mr. [REDACTED] is the [REDACTED] of the [REDACTED] Mr. [REDACTED] resides at [REDACTED], in the city of [REDACTED].

Mr. [REDACTED] stated he would allow the deceased, Aaron Cease, to get items from the store, even if at times he did not have money. He stated this was an arrangement he had with the [REDACTED]. This would only be allowed if [REDACTED] would call in advance, saying that Aaron was coming to the store and to please give him the items he wanted. Mr. [REDACTED] would ring up the items and keep the receipt. Mrs. [REDACTED] would later respond and pay for the items. He stated this would happen two to three times a month and that the last time this occurred was approximately 20 days prior to the incident.

Mr. [REDACTED] stated Aaron Cease did not come to the store on Saturday. He stated Aaron would normally come in between 10:00 and 11:00 a.m. or sometimes between 8:00 and 11:00 p.m.. Normally when Aaron would come to the store it would be for cigarettes or one liter bottles of "Gallo Chenin Blanc" wine.

Mr. [REDACTED] could offer nothing further at this time and the interview was terminated. The interview was not recorded.

At 1823 hours, Investigators contacted Witness [REDACTED] MW/16, DOB: [REDACTED], at the Crescenta Valley Sheriff's Station, accompanied by his [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. Witness [REDACTED] resides at [REDACTED].

Witness [REDACTED] stated he and four other individuals were at the [REDACTED] located at La Crescenta Boulevard and Montrose Avenue, attending a [REDACTED] dinner/dance. He stated they left the location in [REDACTED] car and that he was seated in the left, rear seat. They were travelling eastbound on Montrose Avenue when he noticed a police unit and a male holding a crutch across his chest. He stated the deputy was alone and the suspect with the crutch was walking toward the deputy. After passing the location, they decided to turn around, now facing westbound on Montrose Avenue, and stopped their vehicle. At that point he observed a second deputy pull up and stop. He then saw

both deputies standing next to each other with their weapons drawn. He stated the suspect with the crutch was running toward the deputies, closing the distance between him (the suspect) and the deputies. He stated the deputies kept backing up some distance and then fired two shots. He stated the suspect did not flinch when the shots were fired and the deputies fired two additional shots. He stated the suspect kept coming at the deputies and stated the deputies then "unloaded." At that point he saw the suspect fall to the ground. He and the others became afraid, made a U-turn, and left the location. Witness ████ stated ████ then drove him home.

Witness ████ stated when he first observed the deputy, the suspect with the crutch was only a couple of feet from the deputy. The second deputy pulled up at the same time they were making a U-turn to face westbound. He stated the suspect was holding the crutch close to his body and in a manner that looked like he was going to push or hit the deputy with it. The witness stated he was looking through the windshield at this time and believed ████ had turned the lights off on the vehicle, but he was not sure. He stated he heard two shots, a pause, two more shots, another pause, and then additional shots. He stated he was looking from the rear seat of the vehicle through the windshield, at the back of the deputies. He stated he could not tell the exact distance the suspect was from the deputies, but doubted he was within their reach. During the third volley of shots, the suspect stopped, hunched over, rotated, and then fell to the ground.

Witness ████ stated the crutch looked as if it were made of metal and he could not see the end of it.

Witness ████ could provide no further information at this time and the interview was terminated. The interview was not recorded.

At approximately 1920 hours, Investigators interviewed ████ ████ FW/40, DOB: ████, at ████ ████.

Mrs. ████ stated she attended the ████ ████ dance/dinner and was driving Witnesses ████ and ████ to their residences at the time of the incident. She stated they were travelling eastbound on Montrose Avenue when she observed a police unit, with its lights on, and three people in the street. She stated she was driving slow and noticed that two deputies had their guns drawn. She stated there was a man in front of them with something in his hands. She stated the deputies were backing up and she saw the man charging at them. Just after passing them, she heard the first shot. At that point the girls in the car screamed and she told ████ to look straight ahead. As they reached the next street, she heard two more shots. She noticed one police unit in the street and indicated they were



east of the unit when she first observed them backing up. She stated the suspect had something silver in his hand and was charging the deputies very fast. She stated the deputies appeared to have their hands extended in front of them with their weapons drawn. She stated after she heard the shots, she did not look back. She took ████ home and then took ████ home.

Mrs. ████ stated when she was taking ████ home, she initially turned westbound on Montrose and saw a lot of police units blocking off the road, so she continued up Rosemont to Foothill and then westbound on Foothill. She did not return to the scene.

Mrs. ████ could add nothing further at this time and the interview was terminated.

While at the location, ████, ████ MW/39, DOB: ████, entered the room and advised he was at the ████ ████, located on the ████ of La Crescenta Boulevard and Montrose Avenue, cleaning up after the dance. He stated the police unit was stopped approximately ████ yards ████ of the ████ He said he saw a second unit come up and make a screeching stop and then heard someone yell, at least twice, "Put it down."

████ could offer nothing further at this time.

On 12-22-94 (Thursday) at 1430 hours, Sergeant Harris returned to the area of Montrose Avenue and attempted to contact persons in the apartment complexes on the north and south sides of the street to ascertain if there were any additional witnesses to this event. While checking the area, Sergeant Harris was approached by a male White/20, by the name of ████, who stated he is the ████ ████ of Aaron Cease.

He stated he responded to the area to see where his ████ was killed. Sergeant Harris asked him when was the last time he talked to Aaron and he stated it was approximately one month ago. Sergeant Harris asked how Aaron was doing at the time and he stated, "He was alright, I guess. Well, he wasn't really alright, but he did play the guitar for us, but he wasn't really alright." When asked if he could elaborate on that, ████ stated he did not want to talk about it anymore and left the location.

At approximately 1505 hours, Sergeant Harris interviewed Witness ████ MW/19, DOB: ████, at ████ ████, a second story apartment located on the ████ side of Montrose Avenue.

Witness ████ stated he was home watching television when he heard a lot of banging and yelling, as if someone was hitting trash cans. He looked out the window that faces north and saw someone walking down the street hitting, what he thought were,



trash cans with, what appeared to be, a crutch. He then saw a police unit pull up and a deputy exit the vehicle. At that point, Witness [redacted] went outside and then downstairs and stood on the sidewalk, next to a telephone pole, behind a van to see what was going on. He stated that the deputy told the person to put the crutch down; however, the person pursued the cop. He stated the suspect was swinging the crutch and telling the deputy he was going to kill him. At some point, a second deputy arrived, but he was not sure when that was. He stated as the suspect was walking toward the deputies, yelling that he was going to kill them, the suspect started picking up pace, swinging the crutch at the deputies. He stated the deputies backed up, what he thought was, about 75 feet and at that point the deputies started shooting.

Throughout the incident Mr. [redacted] stated he was standing by a telephone pole in front of [redacted] He stated his view was unrestricted and that he was even with the deputies' police unit. He did not follow them down the street, as they were backing up. He only remembers seeing one police unit and was not sure of the deputies' position when they fired. He thought one deputy was in front of the suspect and the other deputy in back of the suspect. He stated the deputy yelled very loud and convincing, "Put it down," about six times. The suspect was saying something like, "I'm going to kill you" or "I'm going to get you," or words to that effect. He could see the crutch was broken and looked very jagged on the end. He continued saying the suspect was waving the crutch back and forth.

He stated when the shots were fired there were, what he thought to be two vollies of six shots. He could not see which deputy was shooting, but only knows what he heard and about how many shots were fired. He said he was told how many shots were fired from a guy who came out the next day when he saw the cameras there. This guy said he heard the suspect was shot 12 times, that is why he believes there were two volleys of six shots. He said when the suspect was shot it appeared to him that he fell straight backwards and thought the shots were fired in rapid succession.

Mr. [redacted] stated he had nothing to drink that evening and did not use any drugs.

Mr. [redacted] could add nothing further at this time and the interview was terminated at 1529 hours. The interview was tape recorded and included as part of the evidence in this case.

Investigation continuing with further reports to follow.

BY: SERGEANT T. HARRIS, #[redacted]
INVESTIGATOR ROBERT TAYLOR, #[redacted]
APPROVED BY: LIEUTENANT DERRY BENEDICT
HOMICIDE BUREAU - DETECTIVE DIVISION

ARZATE/WP II